HAROLD WEISBERG

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Ms. Deborah Schmidt, managing editor
Mother Jones
731 Market St.,#600
San Francisco, CA. 94103

9/27/95

Dear Ms. Schmidt,

The attention to problems of women in the current issue prompts my sending the enclosed which relates to the special problem of one woman, Lee Harvey Oswald's widow. It is two chapters of a lengthy book I'm writing about the apthetic Norman Mailer and what I believe is his literary bankruptcy.

Please excuse my typing. It cannot be any better. I'm 82 now, in impaired health that limits me and what I am able to do, and I rush because I do have unique subject-matter knowledge and am spending the time that remains for me trying to make as full and accurate a record for our history as is now possible for me. To explain the last comment and to indicate that it is not boasting I enclose the first three pages of a Department of Justice response to my stating under oath myself that the FBI Lab agent in that lawsuit was a perjurer. (Shades of Whitehurst?)

Besides, I have no agent and the record indicates that seeking one now would merely waste time. The record of book publishers has not changed, at least for me, since my 1965 Whitewash:The Report on the Warren Report, received more than 100 international rejections, without a single adverse editorial comment.It remains the basic factual book on the assassination and is a collegiate text today.

By way of additional credentials, that lawsuit was the first filed under the Freedom of Information Act after its 1974 amending, as the enclosed page of the Congressional Record reflects in part over one of my early lawsuits in which the FBI was rather unrestrained in it false statements. To the best of my knowledge none of the media ever reported that it was the sole surviving Kennedy brother who saw to it that the legislative history would be unequivocal. His was a rhetorical question.

I am the only one writing about our political assassinations who eschews all theorizing and restricts himself to the official evidence. Of that, from a dozen or so FOIA lawsuits some of which were precedental, I've about a third of a million pages of once-withheld official records. I do not intend this as a special appeal because you are a woman but as a simple statement of fact: years ago I deeded all of it to one of the best small colleges in the country, local Hood College. It will there be part of a permanent public archive. Aside from those of my records already there I was able to arrange for those of the late and extraordinarily gifted Sylvia Meagher to be there and they are now accessioned and available.

What I wrote about the Mailer/Schiller abuse of Marina of course has to stand alone and I say no more about it other than that especially from my now permanent rush it needs editing and I am aware that it may well be much too long for you. If you want to use it, please feel free to do what you think you should, as long as you do not change the sense without asking me.

So you can know in the event of any future interest, most of the records I am making for the future is in the form of rough, really very rough, book manuscripts. They will all be at Hood, along with all my other work and records. I am depositing these manuscripts in other institutions where there are faculty members who also restrict themselves to fact of the assassination and teach courses on it. They all have varying volumes of selections from these records and, as do all others who come here, the free use of them. Unsupervised and with access to our copier.

If you have any interest and want to call (301/473-8186) please make it by 2 pm your time. To cope with several of my medical problems I must retire early.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

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My current NEVER AGAIN! (Carroll & Graf/Richard Gallen) was written as a record for history. So was what they published last year, Case Open. They were published by accident.